

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10
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INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PEPR, IZ
SUBJECT: ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS: PRESIDENT BAKR
EXPLAINS IRAQI POLICY

REF: BAGHDAD 1469 (NOTAL)

1. PRESIDENT BAKR DELIVERED A LENGTHY TELEVISED ADDRESS
TO THE NATION ON JULY 16. IT WAS BASICALLY IN TWO PARTS:
A LIST OF THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PAST 10 YEARS AND THE
GREATER EFFORTS REQUIRED IN THE FUTURE; A STATEMENT OF
IRAQ'S FOREIGN POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES.

2. THE SECOND SECTION CONTAINED NO MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENTS
AND LITTLE THAT WAS NEW. IT WAS NOT A PARTICULARLY INSPIRING
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PRESENTATION, ALTHOUGH BAKR APPEARED RELATIVELY HEALTHY
AND ALERT, AND CONSISTED ESSENTIALLY OF A RUN-DOWN OF HARD-
LINE BAATHI POSITIONS.

A. THE REVOLUTION WILL NOT DEVIATE FROM ITS PATH.
THE FUNDAMENTAL SOCIALIST, PAN ARAB, REVOLUTIONARY
ORIENTATION OF THE BAATH PARTY REMAINS UNCHANGED, WITH

THE PURPOSE OF MAKING IRAQ THE ACTIVE BASE FOR THE ARAB
REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT ON THE NATIONAL (READ ARAB WORLD)
LEVEL.

B. THE STRUGGLE AGAINST ZIONISM AND IMPERIALISM WILL
CONTINUE, WITHOUT CONCESSIONS, COMPROMISES, SETTLEMENTS
OR NEGOTIATIONS, REGARDLESS OF THE MISGUIDED PATHS CHOSEN
BY OTHERS.

C. IRAQ'S SERIOUS AND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO CONFRONT
THE PROBLEM CREATED BY SADAT'S VISIT TO JERUSALEM WAS
REJECTED BY CERTAIN BROTHERS WHO DIFFERED WITH IT. THE
PATH HAS PROVEN TO BE THE RIGHT ONE, BECAUSE THERE IS NO
SERIOUS STEADFASTNESS OF EFFECTIVE CONFRONTATION.

D. SYRIA FOLLOWS A PATH LAID OUT BY THE IMPERIALISTS,
AND IS NOW FIGHTING HER OLD ALLIES, WITH THE GOAL OF
CREATING CHAOS IN LEBANON IN ORDER TO ASSIST THE
SETTLEMENT PROCESS.

E. INDEPENDENCE, AND NON-ALIGNMENT WITH EITHER MAJOR BLOC,
IS A BASIC PRINCIPLE. THIS INCLUDES ENSURING THAT THE
ARAB HOMELAND DOES NOT BECOME A BATTLE-GROUND FOR
INTERNATIONAL FORCES, ESPECIALLY ITS ENEMIES, ZIONISM
AND IMPERIALISM, PARTICULARLY AMERICAN IMPERIALISM WHICH
SUPPORTS AND AIDS ZIONISM. IRAQ RESISTS PRESSURE FROM
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ANY SIDE.

F. IRAQ CHOOSES ITS FRIENDS ON THE BASIS OF MUTUAL
LEGITIMATE INTERESTS, RESPECT FOR SOVEREIGNTY, AND
NON-INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS. PACTS OF FRIENDSHIP
AND COOPERATION, ONCE SIGNED, AND WITH ANY STATE, WILL
BE HONORED.

G. ON THIS BASIS, THOSE WHO SPEAK OF IRAQ'S ISOLATION
ARE ONLY DECEIVING THEMSELVES. NO ONE CAN FORCE ISOLATION
ON IRAQ WHO CHOOSES WITH WHOM SHE WILL DEAL, NOT VICE VERSA.

3. IN A MAJOR PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE 18TH, SADDAM
HUSSEIN CONFIRMED THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN IRAQ'S
FOREIGN OR DOMESTIC POLICIES. HIS PRESENTATION,
EXTEMPORANEOUS AND MORE POLISHED, ALSO CALLED ATTENTION TO
THE FACT THAT AUTONOMOUS RULE FOR THE KURDS IS IN HARMONY
WITH THE REVOLUTION. IT IS NOT SOMETHING GAINED AT THE
EXPENSE OF THE IRAQI PEOPLE, BUT IS AN EXPRESSION OF
THEIR WILL.

4. COMMENT: FEW OBSERVERS EXPECTED ANYTHING OTHER THAN

RELATIVE BOMBAST ON SUCH AN OCCASION, BUT SOME FAINT HOPES
FOR SOMETHING NEW DID PERSIST UNTIL THE END.
PECK

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